July 26, 2012 meeting minutes Cambridge GLBT Commission

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

Call to Order.

Kevin Shpritzer recorded these minutes.

Agenda for the July 26 meeting was accepted.

The minutes of the June 28 meeting were approved.

<u>Commissioners Present:</u> John Gintell, Steven Lee, Kevin Shpritzer, Aren Stone, Mike McKenna, Gregory Grays-Thomas, Caitlin Drechsler, Neil MacInnes-Barker, Rebecca Caira-Davila,

<u>Commissioners Absent:</u> (excused) – Jeff Walker, Marianne Mondt, Maggie Giles, Dana Zircher, Bob Parlin, Mal Malme, Robert Coats – (unexcused) – Lesley Phillips

Guests:

I. Reimbursement Procedure

- a. Aren gave out information about the revised reimbursement procedure for commissioners.
- b. We should be in contact with Muna Kangsen when planning to make purchases that require reimbursement.

II. Human Rights Meeting

- a. John, Mike and Aren met with the Human Rights Commission to discuss what they've done surveying local homeless shelters.
- b. They've surveyed 3 of the 5. Couldn't get in touch with two of the shelters: Heading Home and the Harvard Square shelter. Gregory will work on contacting Heading Home.
- c. They don't have specific policies in place, and have been dealing with issues as they come up.
- d. The shelters are open to training, but don't want to feel like we are trying to impose things upon them.
- e. Mike has a copy of the survey they used.

III. Events

- a. Danehy Park Family Day is September 22.
 - i. Kevin is finalizing arrangements for our table there and will coordinate a schedule with commissioners over email before the event.
- b. Oktoberfest October 7
 - i. We will look into setting up a table at this event. Kevin will head this. Could be a good opportunity to promote the town meeting.

IV. Senior Dinner

- a. Aren attended the Cadbury Commons senior dinner last night.
- b. She made connections there and promoted the commission with those she met.

c. Aren will talk with Kate Thomas about having the Commission formally talk with attendees at the Sept. dinner to inform them about us and promote the Town Meeting.

V. Youth

- a. John would like us to meet with the new principals of the new Middle Schools schools in Cambridge.
- b. John will talk with Melody Brazo about arranging those meetings.

VI. Communication

- a. Caitlin has sent out some invitations to "Like" the commission's Facebook page. She will send out the remainder shortly.
- b. There was some additional discussion about posting links to the Facebook page.
- c. Constant Contact is one of the email services Marianne is looking into to help us distribute information to our contact list.
- d. Anyone with brochures should distribute them to branch libraries (not the Main Library).

VII. Webpage Updates

- a. Steven will be able to attend to this in August or September. Mike is also willing to assist.
- b. We need some of our video footage from the *Gen Silent* screening to be edited and put online for public viewing.
- c. We should refer people to local showings of *Gen Silent*.

VIII. Town Meeting Planning

- a. There was a planning meeting on July 12.
- b. Proposed date is Saturday, October 13.
- c. We would like a keynote speaker at the town meeting. A list of three potential keynote speakers was developed.
- d. The idea of the 9:00am to 2:00/3:00pm day was presented by city organizers.
- e. Commissioners were hesitant about the length of the meeting and it's timing on a Saturday.
- f. Caitlin proposed having two shorter days, probably midweek evenings the first being focused on gathering information from the public, and the second with a keynote speaker and workshops based on the information gathered.
- g. The commission strongly endorsed this.
- h. October 11, which is National Coming Out Day, would be a good day for the first meeting if possible.
- i. Aren has a follow-up planning meeting on July 31 and will propose these ideas.

IX. Action Items from Last Month

- a. What do with *Gen Silent* footage and photos. Aren will talk to Marianne and Bob about this
- b. Giveaways for events. Aren will talk to Marianne about this.
- c. Neil will look into creating a simple survey to be filled out at events. Caitlin suggested having it be more along the lines of a fun 3-4 question educational quiz.

X. Announcements

- a. Neil was interviewed by the Rainbow Times about the SLDN and OutServe merger and mentioned being on the commission.
- b. There was an article in Spare Change newspaper about the current trans bill.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.